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Letter dated 3 January 2018 from the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) addressed to the President of the Security Council

On behalf of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), I have the honour to refer to paragraph 9 of Security Council resolution 1977 (2011) and to transmit herewith the 2017 review of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) (see annex).

I would appreciate it if the present letter and its annex were brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Sacha Sergio **Llorentty Soliz**
Chair
Security Council Committee established
pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

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Annex

Review of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) for 2017

I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 1540 (2004), the Security Council expressed its intention to monitor closely the implementation of the resolution and, at the appropriate level, to take further decisions that might be required. On 20 April 2011, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 1977 (2011). Under paragraph 9 of resolution 1977 (2011), the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) is mandated to prepare a review of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) before the end of December each year, addressing in particular all aspects of paragraphs 1 to 3 of the resolution, including developing and maintaining efforts to implement the resolution in accordance with national legal authorities and legislation, and consistent with international law. In its resolution 2325 (2016), adopted on 15 December 2016, the Council welcomed the continuous submission of the annual review of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), prepared with the assistance of the Committee's Group of Experts, in December each year.

2. The present review focuses on the implementation of the Committee's sixteenth programme of work (S/2017/126, annex) during the period from 1 January to 31 December 2017.[1]

II. Progress and achievements

3. In 2017, the Committee, chaired by Sacha Sergio Llorentty Soliz (Plurinational State of Bolivia), continued to facilitate and monitor the implementation by States of resolution 1540 (2004). The Committee held two formal sessions in the course of the year.

4. The Committee's work was facilitated by the working group on monitoring and national implementation, coordinated by Ryo Kaneko and Atsushi Morita (Japan); the working group on assistance, coordinated by Alexia Jarrot (France), which held two informal sessions; the working group on cooperation with international organizations, coordinated by Bassem Hassan and Tarek Mahfouz (Egypt); and the working group on transparency and media outreach, coordinated by Craig Finkelstein (United States of America), which held one informal session.

A. Monitoring and national implementation

5. The Security Council, in paragraph 12 of its resolution 2325 (2016), decided that the Committee should continue to intensify its efforts to promote the full implementation by all States of resolution 1540 (2004) through its programme of work. The Committee and its Group of Experts continued the compilation and general examination of information on the status of States' implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), in addition to their efforts at outreach, dialogue, assistance and cooperation. In its relevant interaction with Member States, and in accordance with resolution 2325 (2016), the Committee gave due attention to enforcement measures; measures relating to biological, chemical and nuclear weapons; proliferation finance

[1] The 2017 review contains data and information received as at 22 December 2017. Data and information received after that date will be reflected in the 2018 review.

measures; accounting for and securing related materials; and national export and trans-shipment controls.

6. In accordance with its sixteenth programme of work, the Committee briefed the Security Council on its activities on 11 May 2017 in a joint session with the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities and the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001).

7. Following the completed revision of matrices in 2016, and in accordance with the sixteenth programme of work, the Committee's working group on monitoring and national implementation considered how to improve the process for updating the Committee's matrices. In this regard, the working group recommended a method for the systematic review of the matrices before the next comprehensive review of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), which is to be completed before 25 April 2021.

8. The working group also recommended streamlining the matrix format by reducing the number of measures to be recorded to more closely follow the obligations set out in resolution 1540 (2004). In accordance with the sixteenth programme of work, the revised matrix also reflects an approach that takes into account the specificity of States with respect to their ability to manufacture and export related materials. The revised matrix format was considered and approved by the Committee. In 2018, the existing matrices will be converted to the new format. In future, the matrices will be revised systematically on the basis of the new format.

9. In its resolution 2325 (2016), the Security Council called upon all States that had not yet done so to submit a first report to the Committee without delay. In the context of achieving universal reporting as outlined in the sixteenth programme of work, the Committee continued its efforts to encourage the submission of such reports, including through direct interaction and bilateral meetings. In this regard, in August 2017 the Chair wrote to the remaining 16 States that had not yet submitted reports to encourage them to send to the Committee their first report in line with resolutions 1540 (2004) and 2325 (2016) and held bilateral meetings with the delegation of Equatorial Guinea. Furthermore, the Committee's Group of Experts conducted visits to Mauritania and to Timor-Leste, at the request of those States, to assist them in drafting their first national reports. The Group of Experts also held bilateral discussions with some non-reporting States, including in the margins of events relating to resolution 1540 (2004). As a result, Equatorial Guinea and Zimbabwe submitted their first reports to the Committee in 2017. The total number of States that have provided such reports is now 179 out of the 193 Member States.

10. In the same resolution, the Security Council encouraged States to provide additional information on their implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), including, on a voluntary basis, on their laws and regulations and effective practices in implementing the resolution. During the reporting period, two States, India and Pakistan, provided such additional information, including on measures related to prohibiting non-State actors from using nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and their means of delivery, as well as on measures to establish national controls to prevent the proliferation and illicit trafficking of such weapons and related materials.

11. In its resolution 2325 (2016), the Security Council also encouraged States to prepare, on a voluntary basis, national implementation action plans mapping out their priorities and plans for implementing the key provisions of resolution 1540 (2004). In 2017, six such plans were submitted. Kyrgyzstan submitted its second voluntary national implementation action plan, while Belize, Chile, Panama, Peru and Tajikistan submitted their first plans, bringing to 31 the total number of such plans received by

the Committee since 2007. All of the plans submitted in 2017 were developed with the assistance of the Committee's Group of Experts, which was also involved in efforts to develop new plans and review the implementation of existing plans through direct interaction with El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Suriname and Tajikistan in 2017. The plans of El Salvador, Guatemala and Mongolia were still being drafted at the end of the year.

12. The Security Council, in its resolution 2325 (2016), recognized that it was important that the Committee continue to engage actively in dialogue with States on their implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), including through visits to States at their invitation. In 2017, in addition to the visits to Mauritania and Timor-Leste, the Committee undertook visits to El Salvador and Guatemala to assist with the drafting of national implementation action plans. Those visits provided an opportunity to exchange updated information on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), to identify achievements, gaps and assistance needs and, where appropriate, to map out future actions to implement the resolution. During the visits, relevant national officials, including senior-level government representatives, met with the Committee's experts.

13. States are encouraged to inform the Committee of their points of contact for resolution 1540 (2004), both in their capitals and in their permanent missions to the United Nations in New York. Points of contact can facilitate internal coordination of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) as well as collaboration between States and contact with the Committee. In 2017, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Costa Rica and Mauritania named their points of contact. To date, a total of 101 Member States have informed the Committee of their points of contact for resolution 1540 (2004).

14. In its sixteenth programme of work, the Committee encouraged expansion of the network of points of contact for resolution 1540 (2004) and the continuation of training courses conducted at the regional level for points of contact. In this regard, a training course was held in Xi'an, China, for a second time, with the participation of members of the Committee and instructors from its Group of Experts and supported by the Office for Disarmament Affairs, from 7 to 11 August 2017. Discussions are ongoing with the African Union concerning the holding of a training course for points of contact in African States in 2018.

15. In its sixteenth programme of work, the Committee recognized the need to promote the sharing of experience through peer reviews and other means, table-top exercises to evaluate and reinforce effective practices, and lessons learned. In 2017, the Group of Experts participated in peer review meetings organized with the support of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific; the meetings were held between Belarus, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan in Dushanbe in August and between Chile and Colombia in Bogota and Santiago in October. Among other topics, effective practices in the implementation of obligations under resolution 1540 (2004), specifically in the area of export and border controls, were also discussed at two Wiesbaden process conferences: one that was held in Mexico City for the region of the Pacific Alliance States and Brazil, and the other a global conference held in Wiesbaden, Germany. The objective of the Wiesbaden series of meetings is to promote active dialogue between States and industry on the effective implementation of export controls. In addition, in November 2017 the Government of Ukraine hosted an international workshop to promote the effective implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) in the context of evolving proliferation risks and challenges.

16. At the initiative of the Plurinational State of Bolivia during its presidency of the Security Council in June 2017, the Council held an open debate on the global effort to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction by non-State actors on

28 June 2017. The Council heard statements highlighting proliferation threats, including relevant developments in science and technology, intangible technology transfer and proliferation financing.

B. Assistance

17. The Committee continued to work towards improving the effectiveness of its assistance mechanism. On the basis of the findings of the comprehensive review, the Committee decided in its sixteenth programme of work that its working group on assistance should specifically focus on the Committee's assistance mechanisms to find ways of developing more effective matching strategies and to consider, in general, how to improve the facilitation of technical assistance to States, including by fulfilling its role as a clearing house in a more comprehensive and timely manner.

18. In accordance with its sixteenth programme of work and in fulfilling its clearing-house function in a transparent manner, the Committee continued to post on its website summaries of requests for assistance from Member States, as well as offers of assistance from Member States and a number of international, regional and subregional organizations or other entities. The Committee and its experts also maintain a consolidated list of assistance requests, indicating where offers and requests for assistance have been matched, to be used as required in response to requests for information and, as appropriate, at outreach events. In 2017, the Group of Experts provided a quarterly update on ongoing matching activities, in particular a summary of new assistance requests and offers to the Chair of the working group on assistance.

19. The Group of Experts continued its consultations with officials from States during various outreach events, including during visits to States and national round tables on the implementation of obligations under resolution 1540 (2004), and regularly provided information about and illustrated methods of assistance that could help States strengthen their legislative and regulatory frameworks related to resolution 1540 (2004). They also explained the clearing-house role of the Committee, which is designed to facilitate the flow of information between States requesting assistance and providers of assistance.

20. The Committee and its Group of Experts continued to engage in dialogue with States requesting assistance and potential assistance providers, where appropriate, with the objective of realizing effective matches of existing assistance offers and requests.

21. The United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean continued to support States in Latin America and the Caribbean in strengthening the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) in the region. In that regard, national round tables were organized in the capitals of Guyana, Peru and Suriname, with the participation of Committee experts, to support those States in drafting their voluntary national implementation action plans. The United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and OSCE provided similar support to Mongolia and four States in Central Asia. In that regard, meetings to review the implementation of existing voluntary national implementation action plans and to develop new plans were held with Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, in their respective capitals, and at the OSCE headquarters in Vienna.

22. The Inter-American Committee against Terrorism of the Organization of American States (OAS), in cooperation with the Group of Experts within the framework of its programme for the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) in the Americas, also rendered technical assistance to El Salvador, Guatemala and Uruguay

for the development of their respective voluntary national implementation action plans.

23. In accordance with the sixteenth programme of work and with the objective of better supporting States in developing more detailed and effective assistance requests and providing them, in response to their requests, with more effective assistance that meets their needs, the Committee revised its assistance template in March 2017. The Committee believes that, in general, assistance requests need to be formulated in a more specific manner in order to give a clearer picture of the assistance needed.

24. The Committee's new assistance template provides more substantive guidance to States on the submission of more detailed requests, as it has a simplified layout that provides space for all the information necessary for an individual assistance request. The 2017 template thereby strengthens the Committee's efforts as a matchmaker, as it facilitates the inclusion of more detailed and accurate information on assistance needs and enables better responses to specific needs. The 2017 assistance template is available on the Committee's website.

25. In 2017, the Committee received new assistance requests from Belize, Kenya, and Tajikistan. Those requests were passed on to assistance providers, as appropriate, and summaries of the requests were published on the Committee's website. The requests from Belize and Tajikistan were also included in their voluntary national implementation action plans, which were submitted to the Committee.

26. In 2017, the Committee agreed on ways of developing more effective matching strategies. The Committee decided to take a more proactive approach to matching requests with offers, which includes more focused communication with States requesting assistance and with assistance providers, proactively contacting potential assistance providers and, where appropriate, assisting in initiating a dialogue between States requesting assistance and assistance providers. As urged in paragraph 20 of resolution 2325 (2016), the Committee decided to continue to convene conferences dedicated to matching assistance requests with offers in 2018.

27. The Committee also considered, in general, how to improve the facilitation of technical assistance to States. The Committee decided to task its Group of Experts, at the invitation of States and subject to available resources, with facilitating assistance more actively by developing assistance workshops and country-specific assistance projects for States or regions. With this decision, the Committee aims, in particular, at being able to close a gap in assistance for those States and regions that are committed to implementing their obligations but might not be a priority for States providing assistance.

C. Cooperation with international, regional and subregional organizations

28. In 2017, the Committee continued to develop its collaboration with relevant international and regional organizations, including directly related United Nations entities.

29. As requested in paragraph 25 of resolution 2325 (2016), the Committee and its Group of Experts encouraged relevant international organizations (International Atomic Energy Agency, Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), World Organization for Animal Health, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and World Health Organization) to highlight the obligations set out in resolution 1540 (2004) in their model legislation and/or guidelines, where appropriate, pertaining to instruments under their respective mandates and relevant to the resolution.

30. The Committee and its Group of Experts also invited relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to participate in training courses for points of contact for resolution 1540 (2004) to act as instructors and to enable participating States to understand synergies between the obligations set out in resolution 1540 (2004) and other international, regional or subregional obligations.

31. In this regard, the highlights in 2017 were as follows:

(a) The Committee and the experts intensified their collaboration with OPCW by participating in events organized by or in cooperation with OPCW. These included outreach and regional workshops, such as the International Conference on Chemical Disarmament and Security held in Doha in April; the regional meeting of national authorities in Asia on the Chemical Weapons Convention, held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates in May; and the regional meeting of national authorities in Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention, held in Banjul in July. One Committee expert participated in the stakeholder forum for States parties in Africa on the adoption of national implementing legislation related to the Chemical Weapons Convention, held in Yaoundé in September. A Committee expert also participated in the expert workshop on international chemical security coordination held in The Hague in September;

(b) The Committee also continued its cooperation with the Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit. An expert participated in the training workshop for African national contact points for the Biological Weapons Convention, organized jointly by the Unit and the African Union and held in Addis Ababa in October. On 5 December, one of the Committee's experts participated in the Meeting of States Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention. That event provided the opportunity to engage some non-reporting States and to conduct discussions with States and international organizations providing assistance about the activities in the next year to support the requests received by the Committee;

(c) The Committee and the experts continued their collaboration with the World Organization for Animal Health. A member of the Group of Experts participated in the second Global Conference on Biological Threat Reduction, held in Ottawa in November;

(d) The Committee and the experts continued their cooperation with the Financial Action Task Force and similar regional bodies through participation in events dedicated to proliferation financing. An expert participated in the plenary and working group meetings of the Task Force, which were held in Paris in February. The Group of Experts met with the Task Force secretariat on 12 December 2017 to discuss issues of common concern with regard to proliferation financing.

32. Regional and subregional organizations continued to play an active role in enhancing the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). In this regard, the principal activities included the following:

(a) The Group of Experts held consultations with the Defence and Security Division of the African Union Commission in New York on 28 October to discuss specific initiatives to support the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) in Africa in 2018 and 2019, including training courses for points of contact for resolution 1540 (2004) for States in Africa;

(b) OSCE continued its close cooperation with the Committee and played a leading role in regional efforts to enhance the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). A Committee expert participated in the dialogue meeting of the OSCE Forum for Security Cooperation in Vienna on 7 June. The Group of Experts participated in an international workshop on promoting the effective implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) in the context of evolving proliferation risks and challenges,

held in Kyiv in November. A member of the Group of Experts also participated in the meeting of regional experts on issues relating to the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), held in Bukhara, Uzbekistan, at the end of November;

(c) The European Union continued its financial support for the promotion of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) with the adoption of Council decision (CFSP) 2017/809 on 11 May 2017;

(d) Through its Inter-American Committee against Terrorism, OAS continued to strengthen its cooperation with the Committee. A Committee expert participated in the seventeenth regular session of the Inter-American Committee, held in Washington, D.C. on 6 and 7 April. The Group of Experts participated in a seminar entitled "Security Council resolution 1540: enhancing strategic trade and border controls in Latin America and the Caribbean", organized jointly by OAS and Peru and held in Lima in April;

(e) A member of the Group of Experts participated in the ninth Association of Southeast Asian Nations Regional Forum intersessional meeting on non-proliferation and disarmament;

(f) The Group of Experts participated in the Summer School on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation organized jointly by Mexico and the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and Caribbean;

(g) As a member of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force since 2005, the Group of Experts continued its participation in the Task Force, where each participating entity makes contributions consistent with its own mandate. Specifically, the Group of Experts participated in the Task Force's working group on border management and law enforcement relating to counter-terrorism, with a view to obtaining information on partner programmes relevant to the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), such as technical border control programmes to help States identify weapons of mass destruction and related materials. The Group of Experts also participated in meetings of the working group on preventing and responding to weapons of mass destruction terrorist attacks;

(h) The Committee continued to cooperate with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, and their experts, within their respective mandates. The expert groups and panels of the three committees continued to share relevant information in order to discuss common issues and coordinate actions. In February 2017, the Group of Experts undertook a joint country visit to Tajikistan led by the Counter-Terrorism Committee, which enabled the Committee and the Group of Experts to engage with appropriate officials in those countries on the full range of obligations pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004);

(i) The Chair briefed the Security Council on 11 May, together with the Chairs of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities and of the Counter-Terrorism Committee;

(j) The Committee and its Group of Experts continued their interaction with UNODC on the implementation of the counter-terrorism conventions and the obligations set out in resolution 1540 (2004), with a view to enhancing future collaborative efforts, especially improving assistance coordination. The Group of Experts attended a coordination meeting with UNODC on 8 June in Vienna. An expert participated in a workshop on countering the financing of terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, held in Colombo in June. An expert also

participated in a national workshop on countering the financing of terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction held in Kathmandu in September;

(k) The Committee continued to cooperate with the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific. The United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa assisted in the organization of a workshop, held in Nouakchott from 4 to 6 July 2017, to support Mauritanian authorities in drafting a first national report. Together with the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, the Group of Experts participated in the regional workshop on biosecurity in South-East Asia, organized by the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok in September;

(l) In 2017, the Committee continued its cooperation with other relevant entities and arrangements, including the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism and the G7 Global Partnership against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction. An expert participated in the workshop entitled "Vigilant Marmot" organized jointly by the Global Initiative and UNODC and held in Bratislava in January. A member of the Group of Experts attended the Global Partnership Working Group meeting in Rome in February.

D. Transparency and outreach

33. Transparency and outreach activities make important contributions to fostering greater cooperation and raising awareness among States, parliamentarians, relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and civil society, including industry, regarding the obligations set out in resolution 1540 (2004) and their implementation.

34. Direct outreach to States, relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and, where appropriate, civil society is important, and it is one of the principal tools to reach both wider and targeted audiences.

35. In 2017, the Chair, Committee members and experts participated in 52 outreach events (see enclosure).

36. While States are responsible for implementing the obligations set out in resolution 1540 (2004), parliamentarians and industry play important roles: the former because, in accordance with national procedures, their action is necessary to implement legislation to meet the requirements of paragraphs 2 and 3; the latter because industry is at the leading edge of implementation of national controls over related materials.

37. In this regard, the Chair of the Committee addressed the Interparliamentary Assembly of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, in March 2017. In his address, the Chair highlighted the importance of resolution 1540 (2004) in preventing nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, along with their delivery systems and related materials for their development and manufacture, from getting into the hands of non-State actors, including terrorists.

38. With respect to industry, the Committee and its Group of Experts participated in three events in 2017 that directly engaged industry and provided opportunities to work with and provide information for industry regarding its obligations under national laws:

(a) In March, China Machinery Engineering Corporation organized an internal compliance training event in Beijing, in cooperation with the China Arms Control and Disarmament Association. The objective of the training was to enhance awareness in order to promote internal compliance, especially regarding the obligations of industry under national export control laws and regulations, and to be consistent with the international non-proliferation requirements;

(b) A regional industry outreach conference for the Pacific Alliance States and Brazil was hosted by the Government of Mexico in Mexico City in June, in cooperation with the Office for Disarmament Affairs and supported by the Government of Germany;

(c) The fifth Wiesbaden process conference was hosted by Germany in Wiesbaden, Germany, in November.

39. In 2017, the Committee continued to maintain its website as a tool to raise public awareness and serve as a key source of information and resources relating to resolution 1540 (2004) for use by Member States, Committee members, civil society and industry. With support from the Office for Disarmament Affairs, the site was updated regularly. Those updates included:

(a) A calendar of past outreach events and workshops, as well as confirmed upcoming events, including information notes on such activities;

(b) A list of frequently asked questions;

(c) Identification by Member States and international organizations of national points of contact;

(d) The assistance request template, assistance requests and offers;

(e) National reports and voluntary national implementation action plans;

(f) Statements and presentations by the Chair and Committee members.

(g) A revised matrix template in line with the recommendations made in the 2016 comprehensive review.

40. In 2017, the Committee continued to publish quarterly messages from the Chair.[2] Transparency was further amplified by sending new information via email to a distribution list that included about 2,100 subscribers as at 22 December.

41. The new design of the Committee's website, finalized in 2016, has been launched, which provides enhanced usability and appeal.

42. In 2017, the website had seen 67,092 visits as at 22 December, which represented an increase of 1 per cent in comparison with the previous year.

43. In 2017, 5 press releases were published on Committee events, compared with 11 in 2016.

E. Administrative issues

44. The Department of Political Affairs and the Office for Disarmament Affairs continued to provide support for the Committee and its Group of Experts despite the difficulties of divided responsibilities.

45. In 2017, many of the activities of the Committee were supported by voluntary contributions to the United Nations trust fund for global and regional disarmament activities. In 2017, funds were used from grants provided in earlier years by Canada,

[2] Available from www.un.org/en/sc/1540/chair-message.

Germany, Japan, Kazakhstan, the Republic of Korea and the United States, and from new donations made by Japan and the European Union in 2017.

46. In its resolution 2325 (2016), the Security Council requested the Committee to undertake additional consideration, consistent with the report on the 2016 comprehensive review, of the efficiency and effectiveness of the special political mission that supports the Committee, and encouraged the Committee to report to the Security Council on the findings of this evaluation, in 2017, as appropriate. After initial consideration of this matter in accordance with the Committee's sixteenth programme of work, under the chairmanship of the Vice-Chairs of the Committee, Senegal and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Committee was not able to reach consensus on the matter.

47. In June 2017, the Committee started a recruitment process for six new experts. Under the chairmanship of Sweden, Vice-Chair of the Committee, the Committee considered candidatures for expert positions submitted by Member States. The Committee confirmed the hiring of six new experts on 20 December 2017: Edith Valles (Argentina), Hongliu Zhang (China), Kiwako Tanaka (Japan), Michiel Combrinck (South Africa), Scott Spence (United States) and Jonathan Brewer (United Kingdom).

III. Final considerations

48. In 2017, a substantial amount of work was carried out by the Committee and its Group of Experts in accordance with the 2017 programme of work, but much remains to be done.

49. With regard to implementation, the number of States that have yet to submit their first reports has been reduced from 16 to 14. All of the non-reporting States were engaged on the issue, including with offers of assistance, in some cases more than once. The Committee will continue these efforts in 2018 and continue to encourage States to submit additional information on their implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).

50. In 2017, the revised matrix format was considered and approved by the Committee. In future, systematic revision of the matrices will be based on this new matrix format. In 2018, the Committee's existing matrices will be converted to the new format. The revision of matrices should be finalized before the next comprehensive review, to be completed by 25 April 2021.

51. The Committee should hold discussions on optimal approaches to enforcing appropriate effective laws for the prohibition of activities under paragraph 2 of resolution 1540 (2004).

52. The Committee should hold a closed, expert-level meeting to consider other issues highlighted in resolution 2325 (2016), namely the challenge of controlling access to intangible transfers of technology and to information that could be used for proliferation and accounting for and securing sensitive materials, inviting expert speakers as appropriate.

53. The training course for points of contact for resolution 1540 (2004) continues to prove its worth as a useful tool in fostering regional networks of officials dedicated to facilitating the implementation of the resolution. The Committee should continue to support the organization of such training courses in 2018.

54. The Committee should continue to engage with States that decided to invite the Committee to assist them in developing voluntary national implementation action plans, including in cooperation with other international and regional organizations

such as OAS, OSCE, the Regional Arms Control Verification and Implementation Assistance Centre — Centre for Security Cooperation and regional centres such as the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific.

55. The first grant to the United Nations trust fund dedicated to assisting certain States in the Latin American and Caribbean region, provided by the Government of Canada to draft voluntary national implementation action plans, enhanced the Committee's opportunities for direct engagement with States in that region, in particular in response to their requests for assistance. To be able to continue this kind work with States, more such grants should be encouraged.

56. The Committee recognizes the need for a tailored dialogue with and among States on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) to ensure that the assistance given to requesting States corresponds to their national circumstances, priorities and needs. The Committee should continue to consider how to use existing resources to facilitate prompt and effective responses to assistance requests.

57. With regard to international cooperation, the Committee and its Group of Experts need to continue their collaboration with international organizations, in particular through direct interactions at the headquarters of the most relevant international organizations, during visits of representatives to New York or during any relevant international events. To promote a more active role among regional and subregional organizations in supporting the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), it is proposed that the Committee consider improving the coordination of planning for specific activities. Similarly, the Committee needs to enhance its cooperation with the regional centres of the Office for Disarmament Affairs to facilitate the engagement of States in a regional context.

58. The Committee should hold meetings with relevant specialized international organizations to improve cooperation in assistance and the exchange of information on technical issues. With the regional and subregional organizations, the Committee should develop collaboration on existing and future activities related to the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and on related assistance, taking into account the regional context.

59. The Committee should continue to invite relevant international organizations to dedicated events relating to its activities (such as training sessions for points of contact). The Committee should consider organizing joint country visits with other international organizations at the invitation of States.

60. In 2017, the information posted on the Committee's website was updated to reflect the findings of the comprehensive review completed in December 2016. Electronic outreach through the Committee's website, which has proved valuable in previous years, will continue to be an important element of the Committee's awareness-raising activities. As resources permit, further development, including the enhancement of technology to support the management and use of the Committee's data, will be needed.

61. The Committee should consider additional strategies to increase traffic on its website.

62. The Committee should continue to increase efforts to raise awareness among parliamentarians and other high-level decision makers.

Enclosure

Outreach events held in 2017 attended by the Chair or members of the Committee and/or its Group of Experts

Date	*Description*	*Organizer(s)/sponsor(s)*	*Location*
Visits to States, at their invitation			
4–6 July	Workshop to support Mauritanian authorities in drafting their first national report	Mauritania, the Committee and the Office for Disarmament Affairs (United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa)	Nouakchott
11–13 October	National round table on reporting	Timor-Leste, the Committee and the Office for Disarmament Affairs (United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific)	Dili
20 and 21 March	National round table on the preparation of a voluntary national implementation action plan	El Salvador and the Committee	San Salvador
6 and 7 November	Finalization of the draft voluntary national implementation action plan	El Salvador, the Committee, the Office for Disarmament Affairs and OAS	San Salvador
27 and 28 November	Development of a voluntary national implementation action plan	Guatemala, the Committee, the Office for Disarmament Affairs and OAS	Guatemala City
Joint visits to States			
20–24 February	Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate visit to Tajikistan	Tajikistan and the Counter-Terrorism Committee	Dushanbe
Other country-specific activities			
8–10 March	National action plan implementation review meeting of Kyrgyzstan on resolution 1540 (2004)	Kyrgyzstan, the Office for Disarmament Affairs and OSCE	Vienna
12 April	National round table on identifying legal and technical assistance to facilitate the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004)	Suriname and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	Paramaribo
18 and 19 April	National round table to develop a voluntary national implementation action plan for resolution 1540 (2004)	Uruguay, the Committee and OAS	Montevideo

Date	*Description*	*Organizer(s) sponsor(s)*	*Location*
8–10 May	National round table on strengthening the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and supporting the development of a voluntary national implementation action plan	Mongolia, the Office for Disarmament Affairs and OSCE	Ulaanbaatar
24–26 May	Meeting to review implementation of the 2014 national action plan of Uzbekistan to implement resolution 1540 (2004)	Uzbekistan, the Office for Disarmament Affairs and OSCE	Vienna
29 and 30 June	Round table on strengthening the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and developing a voluntary national implementation action plan	Turkmenistan, the Office for Disarmament Affairs and OSCE	Ashgabat
4 August	Meeting with the Minister for Foreign Affairs of China	China and Committee experts	Beijing
18–21 September	National implementation action plan review meetings	Mongolia and Tajikistan, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and OSCE	Vienna
Other outreach activities			
24–26 January	"Vigilant Marmot" workshop on legal frameworks, organized by the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism	Slovakia, Canada, UNODC and the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism	Bratislava
31 January	Thirteenth Asian senior-level talks on non-proliferation	Japan (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)	Tokyo
5–10 February	Workshop on nuclear security policy and practice on the African continent	African Centre for Science and International Security, James Martin Center for Non-Proliferation Studies and Ghana	Accra
19–24 February	Plenary and working group meetings of the Financial Action Task Force	Financial Action Task Force	Paris
21–23 February	Twenty-fourth Asian export control seminar	Japan and the Centre for Information on Security Trade Control	Tokyo

Date	*Description*	*Organizer(s) sponsor(s)*	*Location*
22–24 February	G7 Global Partnership Working Group meeting	Italy, the Group of Seven and the Global Partnership Working Group	Rome
7 and 8 March	Advanced chemical safety and security management symposium	Pakistan	Islamabad
8 and 9 March	Ninth Association of Southeast Asian Nations Regional Forum inter-sessional meeting on non-proliferation and disarmament	New Zealand and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Regional Forum	Auckland, New Zealand
14 and 15 March	Regional seminar on resolution 1540 (2004)	Pakistan, the Committee and the Office for Disarmament Affairs	Islamabad
15 and 16 March	China Machinery Engineering Corporation internal compliance training	China Machinery Engineering Corporation and the China Arms Control and Disarmament Association	Beijing
27 and 28 March	Parliamentary conference on combating international terrorism	Interparliamentary Assembly of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly	St. Petersburg, Russian Federation
6 and 7 April	Seventeenth regular session of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism	Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism of OAS	Washington, D.C.
10 and 11 April	International Conference on Chemical Disarmament and Security	Qatar and OPCW	Doha
24–26 April	Seminar entitled "Security Council resolution 1540: enhancing strategic trade and border controls in Latin America and the Caribbean"	Peru, the Office for Disarmament Affairs and OAS	Lima
16–18 May	Regional meeting of national authorities in Asia on the Chemical Weapons Convention	United Arab Emirates and OPCW	Dubai, United Arab Emirates
7 June	OSCE Forum for Security Cooperation plenary on resolution 1540 (2004) and its follow-up resolutions 1977 (2011) and 2325 (2016): Exchange of national export control experience and best practices of participating States	OSCE	Vienna

Date	*Description*	*Organizer(s)/sponsor(s)*	*Location*
	of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe		
8 and 9 June	Resolution 1540 (2004) regional industry outreach conference (Wiesbaden process) for the Pacific Alliance States and Brazil	Mexico, Germany and the Office for Disarmament Affairs	Mexico City
13 July	Summer School on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation	Mexico, the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean and the James Martin Center for Non-Proliferation Studies	Mexico City
18–20 July	Regional meeting of national authorities in Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention	Gambia and OPCW	Banjul
22 and 23 June	National workshop on countering the financing of terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction	Sri Lanka and UNODC	Colombo
2–4 August	Peer review	Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific	Dushanbe
7–11 August	Training course for points of contact	China and the Committee	Xi'an, China
12 and 13 September	National workshop on countering the financing of terrorism and the financing of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction	Nepal and UNODC	Kathmandu
12–14 September	OPCW African stakeholder forum	Cameroon and OPCW	Yaoundé
14 and 15 September	Regional Arms Control Verification and Implementation Assistance Centre — Centre for Security Cooperation seminar on national implementation action plans	Regional Arms Control Verification and Implementation Assistance Centre — Centre for Security Cooperation and the Office for Disarmament Affairs	Ratkije, Croatia
19–21 September	Global summit on chemical safety and security	China Petroleum and Chemical Industry Federation and the International Centre for Chemical Safety and Security	Shanghai, China

Date	*Description*	*Organizer(s) sponsor(s)*	*Location*
27 and 28 September	Regional workshop on biosecurity in South-East Asia	Thailand and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific	Bangkok
28 and 29 September	Expert workshop on international chemical security coordination	OPCW	The Hague
4 October	Development of a voluntary national implementation action plan for Guyana	United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	Georgetown
4–6 October	Peer review, Chile and Colombia, phase 1	Chile, Colombia and the Committee	Bogota
17 and 18 October	Training workshop for African national contact points for the Biological Weapons Convention	Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit and the African Union Commission	Addis Ababa
19–21 October	2017 Moscow non-proliferation conference	Centre for Energy and Security Studies	Moscow
24–26 October	Peer review, Chile and Colombia, phase 2	Chile, Colombia and the Committee	Santiago
31 October–2 November	Second Global Conference on Biological Threat Reduction	Canada and the World Organization for Animal Health	Ottawa
2 and 3 November	International workshop on promoting the effective implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) in the context of evolving proliferation risks and challenges	Ukraine	Kyiv
23 and 24 November	Fifth Wiesbaden process conference	Germany and the Committee	Wiesbaden, Germany
27 and 28 November	Meeting of regional experts on issues relating to the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004)	Uzbekistan and OSCE	Bukhara, Uzbekistan
4–8 December	Meeting of States Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention	States parties to the Biological Weapons Convention	Geneva

Abbreviations: OAS, Organization of American States; OPCW, Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons; OSCE, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe; UNODC, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.